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SUBJECT Plans for a General Offensive in Indochina

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Missions of the General Offensive Plan

## A. International

- (1) To destroy the anti-Communist defense line of American imperialism in Southeast Asia and to establish world peace in coordination with international Communism.
- (2) To halt military aid to the puppet emperor of French and American imperialism and to smash the scheme of building up the puppet regime for American imperialism.
- (3) To gain international sympathy through the general offensive and to add determination to the people's struggle.

## B. Internal

- (1) To drive out French imperialism and annihilate the puppet regime.
- (2) To gain control over the entire seacoast, in order to obstruct the landing of American aid for the puppet regime.
- (3) To seize surplus food from the puppet areas to sustain the liberated areas.
- (4) To boost morale of the forces and raise the political consciousness of the people.

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Mobile Warfare in Indo-China

## A. Strategy.

- (1) Mobile warfare plays an important role in guerrilla activities for auxiliary operations.
- (2) In a major war zone, guerrilla activities are largely concerned with leading the enemy into ambushes. In a minor war zone, guerrilla activities are to divert the enemy and harass his reinforcements.
- (3) In a general offensive, mobile and guerrilla warfare are to be used in combination, so that the enemy cannot determine the intention of the Vietminh units. Mobile warfare activities must be concealed, however, in order not to expose the main forces of the Vietminh troops to the enemy.

## B. Division of War Zones and the General Offensive.

- (1) There are five war zones for the Vietminh General Offensive:

Tonkin War Zone  
 Annam War Zone  
 Cochín-China War Zone

Laos War Zone  
 Cambodia War Zone

The first three are major and the remaining two minor.

- (2) The Tonkin War Zone is to be liberated first, then the Cochín-China War Zone before the Annam War Zone. Then the French imperialists will abandon Laos for a final defense of Cambodia. Vietminh forces will then concentrate on annihilation of the enemy.
- (3) Whenever the main force is aiming at a certain war zone, the guerrilla units must launch extensive attacks in other war zones to divert the enemy. After the liberation of one war zone, the forces will move on to the next war zone. The launching of the general offensive and of guerrilla operations will be carried out according to orders.

Battle Operations for Vietminh Troops

## A. In the Tonkin War Zone

- (1) 18,000 effectives will advance to Hanoi from Caobang and Thai Nguyen.
- (2) 18,000 effectives will advance towards Hanoi from Langson via Bacninh. From Bacninh, 6,000 troops will be diverted from the main forces of this contingent to attack Haiphong, in coordination with units from the vicinity of Moncay.
- (3) 12,000 effectives will advance towards Hanoi from Laokay and Yenbay and will take the airfield at Son Tay.
- (4) 6,000 effectives will advance to Hanoi from another direction.
- (5) The Nam Dinh Column, together with guerrilla units at Nam Dinh, Thai Binh, Haiphong, Thanhhoa, and Vinh, will harass the enemy.

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## B. In the Annam War Zone

- (1) The Vinh Column will expand its activities so that the enemy will not be able to use the port of Vinh.
- (2) The Quang Tri (Donghoi) Column will advance on Hue in collaboration with other units advancing against the main enemy positions.
- (3) The Quang Ngai Column will advance towards Hue to capture the base.
- (4) The Quinhon Column will take Quinhon.
- (5) The Khanh Hoa Column will advance on Camranh Bay, destroying enemy naval installations.
- (6) The Phan Thiet Column will advance on Phanranh and take Dalat.

## C. In the Cochinchina War Zone

- (1) Assault units of Tayninh, Giadinh, and Baria will foment uprisings.
- (2) The Bienhoa Column will advance into Saigon.
- (3) The Tayninh Column will advance to Saigon.
- (4) The Tung T'a Mei (東塔梅) Column will advance to Saigon.
- (5) The Lung I Pin (隆匿賓) Column, the Mu ? Chin (木 ? 知) Column, and the Shuo Chuang (朔莊) Column will converge on Mytho.
- (6) Guerrilla units in western Cochinchina along the seacoast will lead extensive uprisings.

## D. In the Laos War Zone

- (1) A contingent of 4,000 effectives will advance to Luang Prabang from Mong Yu and will then proceed to Vinh to harass the enemy and aid the insurgent general offensive in the Tonkin War Zone.
- (2) Uprisings will begin in all areas.

## E. In the Cambodia War Zone

- (1) Under the leadership of Pu-la-pi-se (布拉必塞), guerrilla units in the area of Battambang and Chen Ke Hou K'an (真南河堤堪) (Kompong Chhnang) will control water sources from Tonle Sap (lake) for army supplies. Guerrilla units in the area of Phnom Penh and Mei Yuan (湄園) will create disorder in the capital of Cambodia by blockading and harassing the enemy military liaison activities, communication lines, and military supplies and storehouses.
- (2) In South Cambodia, a guerrilla unit command post of the Vietminh forces general headquarters will be established in the Ho Shan (河山省) State to conduct guerrilla activities, destroy airfields, and control communications with Phnom Penh.

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## F. Auxiliary Activities

- (1) Demolition corps will be formed in various war zones to destroy installations in the enemy rear, the airfields at Hanoi, Haiphong, and Saigon, and the naval installations at Haiphong, Saigon, and Camranh Bay, and to punish French imperialist and puppet government war criminals.
- (2) Front support headquarters and people's aid stations will be established in as many places as possible in order to mobilize the people to support the front with manpower and materials.
- (3) Civic bodies will be formed as comfort corps to boost soldier morale.
- (4) Officers and men of the puppet government and democratic elements will be encouraged to join the insurgents in the general offensive.
- (5) Rumors will be spread to create friction among American and French imperialists and the puppet government.

Commanding Generals in the War Zones

- A. The Minister of Defense Vo Nguyen Giap (武元甲) is commander in chief of all forces for the general offensive throughout the nation.
- B. Chu Van Tan (朱文添) is commanding general of the Tonkin War Zone, in charge of all units of the first, second, and third sub-zones of that war zone.
- C. Nguyen Son (阮山) is commanding general of the Annam War Zone, in charge of all units of the fourth, fifth, and sixth sub-zones of that war zone.
- D. Nguyen Binh (阮平) is commanding general of the Cochinchina War Zone, in charge of all units of the seventh, eighth and ninth sub-zones of that war zone.
- E. LIAO Kuo-liang (廖國樑) is commanding general of the Laos War Zone, in charge of all assault units of this war zone.
- F. Bi-la-pi-se is commanding general of the Cambodia War Zone, in charge of all guerrilla units in this war zone.

The provisions and equipment for the units in various military areas should be in order by the end of July 1950.

A general offensive should be started about April 1950, and by the end of July 1950 all the seacoast areas should be under Vietminh control.

- \*  Comment. The Vinh area is presently under the control of the Ho Chi Minh Government.

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